Musket

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Matthew Santosuosso.

Photo by Rachel Pressman and Emily Orenstein

LHS Mourns Death

by Mandira Mehra

During the week following April 3, LHS students mourned for the loss of Junior Matthew Santosuosso, who was fatally wounded in a car accident on that Saturday night.

The ensuing days were disturbing not only for Matt's family, friends, and teachers, but for all of Lexington High School. It seemed ironic that on the Monday following the accident, the sky was clear for the first time in days. Students were mingling outside, but instead of the usual laughter and noise, an uncomfortable silence hung like a shroud.

In order to accommodate the many mourning students, the administration postponed the end of the quarter by a week and requested that teachers put off tests, quizzes, and homework until the following week.

Guidance counselors were on hand for students who needed to discuss their feelings. On Monday, attendance rules were relaxed for students who were unable to attend classes. Much class time was devoted for students of all grades to discuss the shocking event.

For those who knew Matt, the accident represented the loss of a close friend. Poems, pictures and eulogies remembering Matt were posted throughout the hallways of LHS.

For the rest of the students, Matt's death struck home in terms of reminding people of their own mortality. The shield of suburban, high-school innocence was broken. The accident came at the same time that college application responses were arriving, leaving seniors with the shocked realization that Matt would never have the chance to experience the excitement and the stress they were experiencing.

The wake and funeral were attended by countless students and Lexington residents. St. Brigid's Church was filled beyond maximum capacity, with people lined up against both the side and back walls. Many townspeople and students visited the sight of the accident, leaving flowers, candles, T-shirts, baseball hats, signs, and other momentos dedicated to Matt's memory.

Although the posters have been removed from the walls, and the spray paint has been removed from the buildings, Matt's memory lives in the hearts of those who loved him and will miss him dearly. Their sentiments were expressed, on a poster on the main door across from the flag, flapping at half mast: "Matt- It's so hard to say goodbye."

Senate Accepts AIDS Proposal

by Kit Connolly

The Lexington High School Student/Faculty Senate recently unanimously passed a bill which will make an assembly mandatory for freshmen life skills classes. Henry Nichols will speak about AIDS during this assembly. He has had AIDS since he was twelve years old, having acquired the disease during a blood transfusion. He will talk about the realities and misconceptions of this disease.

This assembly will be far different from usual life skills classes. Junior Senator Paul Abbott says, "It was the most meaningful life skills class I ever had." The lecture will be exclusively for freshmen because the number of people at the assembly must be limited.

Senate Moderator Will Eisner commented, "This presentation will be a powerful lesson to freshmen about the reality of AIDS."

"The lecture is very effective for everyone. There is such a big impact because Mr. Nichols is so frank and open," said sophomore Rupa Mukherjee. "The room is so tense and silent. He really puts the AIDS epidemic into perspective." The assembly will take place sometime in May.

The Senate has also been working on the snack bar resolution. The fact that kids with open campus have no where else to go is one of the reasons for the snack bar. The Senate discussed each point separately and decided: (1) the snack bar will be open all day; (2) it's location will be rotated; (3) the nutritional value of the food will be evaluated; and (4) there will be no friolator. The friolator was removed because it conflicted with the nutritional value point. There was discussion of the snack bar staying in one place while teachers were rotated. This was seen as an insult to teachers and was denied. Therefore, the snack bar will be moved annually. There is no specific date for its opening thus far.

The Senate elected two students for positions on the Student Advisory Council. The council is a group from high schools around Massachusetts that focuses on making recommendations for better education. They will work with the state school board on problems in our schools. After debating the issues, the group will make bills and policies while creating legislation for our own schools and schools in general.

> "This presentation will be a powerful lesson to freshmen about the reality of AIDS."
>
> *—Senate Moderator Will Eisner*

After being questioned on their ideas, means of communication with the student body, and time commitments, the students selected were sophomore Mukherjee and freshman Jean Park. Rupa Mukherjee commented, "Although I've never done anything like this before, it looks to be a promising position."

Finally, a letter writing resolution, which would have replaced the teacher evaluation bill, was sent back to committee for further discussion. The resolution recommended that students who are dissatisfied with teacher performance should formalize their feelings in the form of a letter to the administration. The senate recommended that the resolution be re-worked.

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School Faces Budget Cuts

by Li-Cheng Wang

The LHS school system faces severe budget cuts. At present, the system faces an $800,000 shortfall between Superintendent Jeffrey Young's budget request and the budget, the Board of Selectmen has allocated. Depending upon various possible amounts of state/local aid, the budget gap could be closed to $330,000, or even $100,000. Fortunately, the School Committee and other town officials have agreed to supplement the budget later on, if the budget shortfall is above $100,000, creating a situation that Mr. Wilson calls "very optimistic".

There are two possible levels of state aid. The first is the "generic" state aid of $460,000 that the school received last year and that Mr. Wilson says he "fully expects to receive".

This funding from the state would minimize the budget problems to $330,000. The school reform legislation offers more hope, in the form of an additional $230,000 of aid. Town officials know little about the chances for this extra aid, but according to John Oberteuffer, Chairman of the School Committee, "We'll known in June". If this extra aid doesn't materialize, William Dailey, Chairman of the Selectmen, has agreed to supplement the school budget by $180,000, meaning that budget cuts will most likely range between $100,000-150,000.

According to Mr. Wilson, this gap will sadly "require cuts" in activities and courses. Mr. Wilson says that cuts will be "made collectively and as equitably as possible". There will be an emphasis said Wilson on "non-classroom essential" courses such as life skills for 8th/9th graders, substitutes for classes attended by seniors/juniors, or foreign language in elementary schools. In what is getting to be a sad, annual tradition, some vital high school courses are once again threatened: debate travel, LHS writing lab, arts courses, library services, industrial technology and home economics. Other programs under the chopping block include middle school, elementary music electives; replacement of equipment; computer tech programs; etc.

> "[These cuts] have reached a point where each cut constrains our school's ability to teach"
>
> *—Principal David A. Wilson*

Unlike last year, when the budget gap that was threatening many programs at LHS was closed via Proposition 2 and a half, "No possibility [for an override] exists this year" said Lois Coit, school committee veteran.

"Property tax bills have increased dramatically—since the town reassessed property values this year, shifting taxes from commercial to private property, increasing the value a lot on paper", explained Coit. Therefore, property taxes will have increased already, preventing another potential source of funding.

Even the pre-cut budget of $29.8 billion contained many important sacrifices. Counselor/student, nurse/student ratios remain far higher than believed acceptable. Additionally, Mr. Wilson expounds that the school has "postponed buying replacements [for textbooks, equipment, etc. and supplies". Wilson explained, "[These cuts have reached a point where each cut constrains our school's ability to teach", and that the school is only delaying the inevitable, causing "a build-up" of needs that can only "lead to a bigger crisis in the future."

Superintendent Jeffrey Young is currently dealing with serious budget questions.

Photo by Gill Grant

The Lexington High School Math Team is currently second only to perennial math power-house Canton.

Photo by Gili Grant

Students Attend Seminar

By Roopom Banerjee

On the first weekend in April, a troupe of Lexington students, in conjunction with students from fourteen other schools, attended the Conference on Regional Economic Cooperation and Development in Southern Africa, run by the Education for Public Inquiry and International Citizenship (EPIIC) Committee at Tufts University. Headed by teacher Martha Zimmerman, this year's delegation from Lexington included seniors Michael Sung and Roopom Banerjee, and juniors Selim Berker, Ivan Chan, Victor Karkar, Jeff Kwan, Joe Wallerstein, and Li-Cheng Wang.

The purpose of the EPIIC program is to address the areas of conflict in the world and, through meetings among student delegations, attempt to redress the grievances of the parties involved. Although no plan is officially enacted, meeting with other students (who play the roles of ambassadors, chairpersons, heads of states, etc.) introduces those students to the proceedings involved in making decisions of global proportions.

This year EPIIC addressed "the economic relationships and development in Southern Africa with regard to the end of the Cold War, the shift in concentration from military to economic security, world trends toward regionalization, and the withering of apartheid and the changing political and economic systems in Southern Africa."

> "Whatever we decide today will help us be one step closer to resolving the problems that plague the world"
>
> *—Junior Mike Sung*

Lexington this year represented the South African nation of Angola, which, while in the heart of a civil war, still maintains its political and economic integrity, as are evidenced by the recent democratic elections and the Lagos Plan of Economic Action.

Over the two days that EPIIC convened, members of the group broke into pairs to attend the different meetings, broken down into national affairs. In these meetings, students from the many schools generally proposed plans of action to gain national interests.

The role-playing involved in the EPIIC program allows students to broaden their views on different areas of the world, and also to establish peace in the "world" they create through EPIIC. As Mike Sung noted, "It asks us to pretend that we are prominent figures. It is great to know that whatever we decide today will help us be one step closer to resolving the problems that plague the world."

For the Lexington delegation, this was the first time Lexington has been involved in the EPIIC program. The consensus among the students from Lexington is that although role-playing is enjoyable, the seriousness of the program is not overlooked: to encourage students to become future arbitrators,

Because of its positive experience this year, the Lexington delegation plans to engage in EPIIC in the future. The organization is currently looking for LHS students interested in participating.

SBC Discusses Fairness Issue

by Offer Egozy

The Lexington High School Site-Based Council is working on a variety of issues ranging from the Fairness Initiative, which would deal with treatment of lower level students, to the emotional needs survey, which will gather information on topics such as sex, drugs, and emotional problems. According to Senior member Matt Lippert the group is active during their bimonthly meetings even in the face of financial woes.

The Fairness Initiative, which the Council has worked on since the start of the year, deals with "fairness in terms of college preparation for students in lower levels," said Lippert. The initiative, originally proposed by principal David A. Wilson, will attempt to determine if lower leveled students are treated fairly and whether or not their needs are being met. Members hope a course of action will be finalized soon.

A second issue, the emotional needs survey, is also under discussion in the Council. The survey will try to shine light on the problems of drugs and alcohol, among other things, in the high school. Although not yet in affect, some students expect the results of the survey to be "shocking." The primary purpose of the survey will be to establish definite numbers concerning the problems mentioned above.

Another issue discussed in recent meetings is the learning level of seniors who don't plan on attending college. Lippert commented, "It isn't fair for LHS to forget about the significant number of students who don't intend to go to college. They need to be taught too." He added that the Council has been examining vocational training programs in schools such as Minuteman Technical Vocational School to determine policy options.

> "It isn't fair for LHS to forget about the significant number of students who don't intend to go to college. They need to be taught too."
>
> *—Senior Matt Lippert*

"Vocational training at Minuteman is definitely something to look into," commented Lippert.

Although the Council is actively pursuing initiatives and surveys such as those mentioned above Lippert made it clear that problems abound. The primary ailment afflicting the council is lack of funds.

Jamboree Held

by Sriram Krishnamurthy

A Spring Jamboree, a collective performance of all the Lexington High School a cappella groups, entertained all who witnessed it on April 2nd. Although the high school groups performed outstandingly, the highlight of the evening was the performance of The Jabberwocks, an a cappella group from Brown University.

The emcee for the evening was junior Steven Kim, who also was a tenor in the group Shaken, Not Stirred. Kim showed remarkable wit and humor in his first performance as an emcee. Although Kim impressed the crowd as the emcee, the stars of the performance were the heralded singers Tanya Frank, Tina Deck, Andrew J. Thompson, Hong Kwon, and Brent Newcomb.

Freshman CJ Dematteo, a bass in the all-male Pitchpipes, directed by Eric Ruthenberg, described his events at the Spring Jamboree with the statements, "It was exciting for me, as a freshman, to participate in such an exhibition of great voices. Hopefully there will room for me in other performances such as this. I was overwhelmed at the talent of the singers in our group especially the two guys on Tenor I (Andrew J. Thompson and Hong Kwon). Since it was my first time performing in a concert like this, I was very enthusiastic about working with such great talent."

Dematteo also said that he particularly enjoyed the group performance of the all-female Something Else, co-directed by seniors Susan Connor and Tanya Frank. The presentation of Shaken, Not Stirred, directed by Hong Kwon, also received favorable reviews from the audience.

Sophomore Carlos Reyes enjoyed the jamboree, commenting, "I really think this was a memorable night, and the Jabberwocks from Brown provided a perfect complement to the talent from Lexington." Most all of the audience was entertained by the Jabberwocks, directed by L.H.S. graduate Peter Welch.

All in all, the annual Spring Jamboree was an excellent showcase of the talent of the singers at Lexington High School.

News Briefs

LHS Students Place Well at Science Fair

Lexington High School senior Roopom Banerjee and sophomore Jason Harris respectively won with the First and Second Place Awards at the Massachusetts Region IV Science Fair. Sophomore Rupa Mukherjee, junior Yvonne Ou, and senior Rachel Kleinman all garnered highly prestigious Honorable Mention Awards.

This group of students will be leading a delegation of Lexingtonians to the State Science Fair. Others who will attend the State Science Fair at M.I.T. include Region IV award-winners junior Michael Tsung, senior Michael Sung, Daan DeBrouckere, Chuck Doerr, John Lin, Johanna Bobrow, Ngozi Uzogara, Kristen Mann, and Jonah Proujansky-Bell. Lexington has historically been very successful at the state level; and with former State-Science Fair winners from Lexington attending the competition this year, Lexington looks forward to doing well.

For the past three years, Lexington has qualified at least one person each year to attend the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF), held in the past at exotic locations such as Orlando and Nashville. In past years, Massachusetts representatives from Lexington at ISEF have included Weihaw Chuang, Seetha Ramnath, and Michael Sung; for the fourth consecutive year, a Lexington student will represent Massachusetts at ISEF. Representing Lexington and Massachusetts at ISEF this year will be Roopom Banerjee. Meanwhile, Jason Harris will be entered into a pool of competitors; from this highly competitive group, two people will be selected to represent Massachusetts at ISEF.

The International Science and Engineering Fair for 1993 will be held in Biloxi, Mississippi, where students from around the world will spend a week involved in tours, lectures and intense competition.

Math Team Succeeds

The saying "The second time tends to be twice as sweet" proved true for the Lexington High School Math Team, as the group calculated their way to victory at the State Math Meet for the second consecutive year.

The team, consisting predominantly of underclassmen, defeated its arch-rival Canton in the final round of the meet, before which Lexington had been trailing Canton. With the pressure on Lexington to hold onto its champion status, the Lexington team then out-scored Canton by eight points in the final round, thereby clinching its victory.

The members of the team include sophomore Captain Jonathan Weinstein, perfect-scoring senior Xi-Lian Yan, perfect-scoring junior Timothy Shiau, perfect-scoring sophomore Peter Jung, junior Selim Berker, junior Susan Park, sophomore Peter Ouyang, and freshman sensation Kenny Shei.

Teacher and coordinator Saleh Rahman described the meet as a "hard-fought, closely contested match that came down to the last few seconds." The excellence displayed by the Lexington students is heightened, considering that Lexington was vying for the state title in the large school division, which includes math titan Canton.

The Lexington victory comes after stupendous performances throughout the year in two mathematics leagues sponsored by the state: the Massachusetts Math League (MML) and the Greater Boston Math League (GBML). In the MML, Canton started off the year by posting high scores that Lexington could not overcome; Lexington thus finished the year in Second Place. Meanwhile in the GBML, although Lexington contended valiantly with other schools, ultimately Canton snagged First.

Nonetheless, already with many honors to adorn their caps, the Lexington team looks forward to another year of success, not only in the State and in New England, but also in national competitions.

New Briefs compiled by Roopom Banerjee.

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Pigs In Space drummer Sacha Twarog. According to Jonas Woolverton, this picture was taken "Live in Waco, Texas."

Photo by Mark Stevens

Pigs Run Rampant

by Mike Tsung

"Chickens! Chickens! Noise! Noise!" According to Tribal Drummer senior Sacha Twarog, these six syllables are key to the philosophy and success of the band Pigs in Space. Sophomore Jonas Woolverton, under the clever guise of "Gomez," heads up the band as the lead singer and teen heartthrob.

Senior Matt "Porkohontas" Liston handles the bass guitar chores. As mentioned before, Sacha takes care of the drums while senior Alex "McGraw" McGregor does guitars and back-up vocals.

Pigs in Space arose from the smoldering ashes of The Thists, the now-defunct band headed up by that infamous LHS graduate, Alan Quick

However, Sacha, Matt and Alex realized that disbanding prematurely would be a treasonable offense, so they sought a lead singer. Enter Jonas, sophomore vocalist and lover extraordinaire.

According to Sacha and Alex, this is the conversation that came about when the four of them got together:

Sacha: "Let's make a band."
Jonas: "Yeah, I like cool bands."
Alex: "I like keeping sodas cool."
(Matt apparently abstained from the conversation).

With help from producer junior Steve "skim" Kim and manager senior Brett Sroka, Pigs in Space have produced a full-length album which has enjoyed phenomenal sales. In this self-titled album, Pigs in Space present a taste of their quirkiness put to music.

The diversity in musical choices among the band members is obvious and is sometimes a source of tension and macho posturing. However, Matt explains that the differences in their individual musical tastes does not affect the quality of their music. In fact, he comments, "The only music we can agree on is the music that we make."

Alex expands on that philosophy by stating, "My theory on music is that anything is up for grabs. You should listen to all kinds of music if you want to understand where we're coming from. Country, jazz, muzak, old-school rap, and ska are the driving forces behind [our music]."

Matt concludes the group's self-analysis with: "I think our music is really good because we never play the same thing twice. That way, our music is always surprising and interesting...We bring together so many influences that everybody loves at least ten seconds of our music."

Public opinion of Pigs in Space is varied. Environmentally-friendly junior Cristina Post responded, "The problem is that people either love [Pigs In Space] or hate them."

Junior Jacob Kasell reacted positively about the Pigs. Having "lifted" a copy from a friend, he says that he does not plan on returning it. Kasell describes Pigs as a cross between Primus, Jane's Addiction, and the Red Hot Chili Peppers. He cited the lilting manner in which Jonas delivers the verses on "Officer Friendly" and said, "You see, that's Chili Peppers."

LHS faculty is unsure about how to react to the Pigs in Space phenomenon. In fear, they ask themselves this question: Myself, is this just another innocent flash-in-the-pan group like New Kids on the Block, or is this the Dark Side of the Force which Obi-Wan warned Luke Skywalker against? Apparently, our assistant principal was not convinced of the "innocence" of Pigs in Space.

According to Sacha, first-year Latin teacher, Dr. Sally Nelson, loves Pigs in Space and their music. Contrariwise, Ms. Keenan was only able to venture a cautious "interesting" after hearing them play live. Mr. Kollen reportedly became so overwhelmed with emotion when he saw Jonas hug Steve Kim on stage, that he began to cry.

Playing live is an essential part of the Pigs in Space philosophy. "If I could never play live, I would be sad because playing live is the only thing better than watching Driver's Ed movies," intimated Sacha.

Jonas chose to take a different approach to the subject of playing live. He agreed that concerts are an exhilarating experience, but added that he especially enjoys it when "the audience pulls down my pants...Of course, I now only wear boxers."

When asked about future plans, the Pigs noted that they were attempting to secure a place on Sesame Street so they could teach young children the alphabet in Spanish, while gaining world-wide exposure. Once this type of exposure is attained, the Pigs wish to capitalize on the fame and fortune of world tour. Stops on this tour would include Peabody, Cambridge, and the "Space" at 107 South Street, Boston.

The Pigs in Space boys were then asked about what they did in their free time. "Well, we don't pay tolls or listen to boys choirs when we are together, and we have vowed never to eat tuna in the presence of one another," explained one band member.

> "CHICKENS! CHICKENS! CHICKENS! CHICKENS!"
>
> —*Senior* Pig *Alex McGregor*

Finally, the members of Pigs in Space were given a piece of notebook paper to fill with any thing they would want their fans to know about them. Jonas was the first to finish, expounding this pithy statement: "Drugs suck, and Wein Lo is our cult hero."

Not wanting to pass up his chance at addressing his vast female following, manager Brett Sroka piped, "I like Spanish girls...a lot."

Alex managed to spew forth the following: "CHICKENS! CHICKENS! CHICKENS! CHICKENS! Sometimes when I sit at home and watch the Spanish Channel, I get excited. I go running into my room and I grab my guitar and I start singing the words to a commercial in Spanish, REALLY LOUD! Then the neighbors come and we play a quick game of touch football...."

"If I had to condense my list of musical heroes to two or three, I'd have to say my idea of the ultimate musical goodness would be Billie Holliday, Angelo Moore, and Michael Ivey. However, my ultimate hero is Michael Bolton."

We must close with Sacha's"performance piece" : "For me, the sexual aspect of our music revolves mainly around the drums. I like big butts. Sledding is very important. If everyone wore pants that were ten sizes bigger than what they should be, and if everyone ate tofu burgers religiously, and if everybody wore wool ski beanies in the summer, and if everyone played drums, then the world would be nice and no one would have to do drugs."

Chinese Meal Held

by Stephanie Berman

On April second, over one hundred and fifty Lexingtonians gathered in the J-House cafeteria to celebrate and explore Chinese culture through an authentic Chinese dinner. The dinner, organized by Lexington High School's Asian Club, featured live entertainment and delicious Chinese food. The sixth annual event proved to be a great success in attracting both members of the school and the community.

> "We can break this cycle [of anti-Asian racism], and we can do it through learning and understanding"
>
> —*Junior Lora Schwartz*

All of the food was prepared by the members of the Asian Club and their families. Traditional appetizers of Scallion Pancakes, Silver Spoon Wings, and Spring Rolls were served first, followed by the main course which featured Hawaiian chicken, Beef and Broccoli, and a vegetable dish. For dessert, mixed Chinese fruits were served along with fortune cookies.

Music and dancing by student and community artists were combined with elaborate decorations to set the mood for an enjoyable evening. J-House Cafeteria was transformed into a festive place, decorated with Asian art. Throughout the evening, a variety of performances entertained the audience.

One section of the entertainment featured a play performed by club members. Their skit, stressing the cycle that forms when racism is passed from one generation to the next, sent an important message to the audience. "We can break this cycle, and we can do it through learning and understanding," expressed junior Lora Schwartz.

Dr. Monica Chang, the advisor to the Asian Club, spoke candidly about the challenges of Asian-American life. She related personal anecdotes to a responsive audience.

As is traditional for every year, bright and elegant costumes were modeled by the students. The costumes represented the clothes of Chinese people in ancient times.

In addition, the club asked guests to aid in the making of over one thousand paper cranes. These cranes will be sent to Japan with Lora Schwartz, who will visit the Peace Shrine at Hiroshima this upcoming summer.

The profit from the Chinese dinner will allow the Asian Club to fund activities through the year. Asian Club members attend lectures, discussions, and field trips as a part of their effort to explore and celebrate various cultures. This year, they have seen a production of the play, "Dragon Wings," and have visited the Asian Festival at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston.

Members of the club agreed that the goal of educating those in attendance about Asian cultures was definitely attained. Freshman Alissa Menovich commented, "It taught me a lot about the Chinese culture that I never knew before."

Seniors Hillel Brahms and Paul Noonan chow down at the most recent Chinese Dinner.

Photo by Gill Grant

ISA Organizes Events

by Naveen Malhotra

The International Students Association (ISA) of LHS will be showing off its worldly flavor this month. On the twenty-first of May, the second annual International Night will bring a diversity of foods, fashions and entertainment to Lexington students. Music and food from all over the world will entertain people and their tastebuds.

This event is sponsored by the ISA, an organization dedicated to the awareness of various cultures. "The best thing about the ISA night," said one enthusiastic participant, "is the wide range of club participation." Among the expected groups to attend are the Asian Club, Drama Club, Spanish Club, and French Club.

In the fall of 1991, a group of motivated, immigrant students converged to create a club that would educate people about other cultures and countries. Since then, the International Students Association members have held weekly meetings to learn and discuss other cultures through lectures, movies and other activities.

The founders of the ISA are alumni Shubang Mishra and Quamrun Zaman, and senior Mohammed Zoman. "I hope I've made a difference in making the club the best it could be by striving to fulfill the goals of the club," declares current ISA President, senior Haritha Bandla.

Since the two years of its existence, the ISA club has created a variety of activities. Among the most successful events have been the International Talent Competition, the International Food Night, and the International Dress shows.

For the second successive year, the club has produced a display in the Library Media Center through the month of April. Despite the fact that the school year is drawing to a close, the momentum of the club is higher than ever as its members prepare for International Night, the finale to a year of fun and hard work.

This year, co-chairman Mohammed Zaman and Vice-President David Barzilai were honored with awards for their multicultural achievements. Presented by the Massachusetts Education Association, this prestigious award recognizes students, parents and teachers who have sacrificed their time for the awareness of cultures.

Zaman concluded, "The year has been a great success for the ISA; we hope its legacy continues long after its last founding member graduates."

Senate Being Self-Limiting

The Lexington High School Student/Faculty Senate is one of the most powerful legislative bodies of its kind in all of New England. While most high school student bodies are limited to organizing social events and fundraisers, the LHS Senate has been given so much power that it has been able to institute major school policies, such as the open campus bill, the substitute teacher bill, and the condom bill, even when the administration has attempted to veto these actions.

Along with this great power given to the Senate comes great responsibility. The Senate has demonstrated through the years that it is capable of producing and defending useful and appropriate legislation. However, it has come to the attention of the Musket editorial staff that the Senate is in danger of losing some of its power on two ways: by giving more power to the Site-Based Council and by restricting itself needlessly.

Recently, a committee of the Senate submitted a teacher evaluation bill which would have regulated the method and frequency of teacher evaluations submitted by students. Before the bill could even be discussed, the senate voted to send it back to committee so as not to interfere with plans "currently" being made by the Site-Based Council to create similar legislation. The bill was sent back to committee and has never re-surfaced. No visible plan on the issue of teacher evaluation has come from the Site-Based Council as of this point.

The Senate is a body that has proven itself many times over by creating and instituting powerful and sometimes controversial legislation. The Site-Based Council is a committee, like many administrative committees, that is slow to discuss and reluctant to act. In what way has the Site-Based Council demonstrated that it is more capable than the Senate in the creation legislation of any kind? In its few years of existence, the Site-Based Council has done nothing noticeable. It has discussed, but it has not acted. How does the Senate conclude, then, that the Site-Based Council is more capable than it is of handling teacher evaluation?

If the Senate truly is concerned about teacher evaluation, then it had best take care of the issue itself. Now delegated to the Site-Based Council, the idea is no doubt waiting in limbo to be discussed by a "focus group" or some other committee that will prolong the discussion process but not improve the idea. If the senators dislike a bill, they should vote it down. Part of the responsibility that the senate bears as a representative body is to maintain as much power as possible, so as best to represent their constituency. By deferring to the Site-Based Council, the Senate is doing a disservice to the LHS student body.

Another issue that has been restricting the senate is the issue of constitutionality. The senate is governed by a constitution, approved by the School Committee. This constitution contains, among other things, a set of rules that limit the scope of the senate's legislative power.

Recently, a bill was submitted to the senate that would have substantially altered the way that final exams were given to students. The bill was not passed. Although this bill may not have been such a good idea, the arguments made against it are very worrisome.

In the constitution, the senate is restricted from dealing with legislation that interferes with "individual" teacher curriculum. The exact implications of this rule have been a grey area. Does it mean that the senate cannot create legislation dealing with the curriculum of one particular teacher or does it mean that the senate cannot create legislation dealing with the curriculum of all teachers, which would affect each teacher "individually." Obviously, this is not a simple issue. However, when arguing against the bill, several senators chose not to attack the problems of the bill, but rather chose to question its constitutionality. Although this argument may seem reasonable at first, it is dangerous.

Considering that this bill deals with constitutionally-questionable ground, if it were passed it would most likely be vetoed by the principal. It would then be sent to the school committee, who would then decide whether the bill was constitutional or not. If they were to decide no, the senate would be severely limited. If they were to decide yes, the senate would be immensely empowered. Those senators who have taken upon themselves to decide what the senate can and cannot do have thrown away this process and have weakened the senate immeasurably through their short-sightedness and laziness.

The final exam bill didn't deserve to be passed. On the other hand, it didn't deserve to be dismantled by misguided and confused senators either. These people have hurt the senate and the students, and they do not deserve to represent anything but their own, selfish self-interests.

The senate is one of the most unique parts of Lexington High School. It is a fully-functioning, mature legislative body, and it deserves as much power as it can possible handle. The senate does itself and the students of LHS a disservice by deferring to the Site-Based Council and by restricting itself needlessly.

If the senate truly believes that it is not a competent legislative body then it should disband. However, if the senate really wants to help students, teachers, and LHS, it should not hinder itself by needlessly giving power away.

Such unsigned editorials represent the general opinions of the entire Musket editorial staff.

Finals Should Be Separated

The administration's decision to hold senior final exams during regularly scheduled classes is born out of a lack of interest in what benefits students. Currently, teachers of senior classes are in effect free to assign final exams, which must count as 20% of a student's year grade, during their class any day of the last week of school.

With this system, students may have an exam on Monday and still have to go to that class on Tuesday through Friday, although they would not be responsible for what is taught. This creates a burden on teachers, who must maintain order despite a sense of futility.

> Since the administration requires final exams to be worth such a large part of each student's year grade, it seems irresponsible to accord the actual administering of the exam as little importance as an everyday test.

More importantly, students could be assigned several exams on a single day, as well as regular homework assignments from other classes. Since the exams are equal in value to an entire quarter of work, it seems not too much to ask that students be given the option of devoting at least an entire night to studying for each one.

Finally, a 45-minute test cannot reasonably evaluate an entire year of learning. This is the same length as tests given throughout the year. The final exam under this system must necessarily be fragmented and superficial if it addressed the better part of what was taught at all.

The alternative, in which exams are specially scheduled by the administration during 90-minute blocks instead of during regular classes, would have been preferable. This system ensures that final exams are reasonably spaced out and lengthy enough to allow at least some coverage of a year's worth of work.

Perhaps most importantly, under a special final exam schedule, students would go to school only to take the finals. This would foster a more serious test-taking attitude among seniors, rather than the devil-may-care attitude of "fail a final, go to next class." Since the administration requires final exams to be worth such a large part of each student's year grade, it seems irresponsible for the administration to accord the actual administering of the exam as little importance as an everyday test.

Many math and English teachers feel strongly that we should have special scheduled final exams, and have expressed those feelings to Mr. Robinson, the organizer of what would have been final exam week. Apparently, however, the current system came about as a result of a united front in the science department, whose teachers feel they need the extra few days of class in order to make up for days lost to snow and holidays. The science department, famous for such political coups as the five-day-a-week class and the double block, would do well to realize that little productive activity will occur during the already hectic last week of school if both final exams and new materials are crammed into student's heads.

—Dan Michaelson

Print Journalism Class Is Needed

The 1991-1992 school year was the last year during which a Print Journalism course was offered to students of LHS. As both editors of a newspaper and students concerned with the quality of education at Lexington, the Musket editorial staff urges the administration to reinstate this program because it offers a unique opportunity to Lexington students, not available in any other area of study.

Print Journalism is a multi-disciplinary activity. It involves writing ability, management, ethics, research, and many other academic areas. The course is oriented not only toward students considering a career in journalism, although it is a necessity for those considering working on the Musket. The skills taught in Print Journalism should be required knowledge for all graduates of LHS.

The course is similar in this and other regards to Debate. Both classes teach widely applicable skills through a focus on a specific activity. The great success of the debate program at the high school can be attributed to coach Les Phillip's emphasis on the research and communications skills taught in his debate class and in debate rounds. Similarly, Print Journalism should be billed as a way to teach students how to write concise prose, research issues, and communicate with other people.

In addition, the Print Journalism class would teach the skill of reading newspapers and other news media, something few high school students know how to do. All should. The biases in the modern media demand a peculiar set of skills so that we can understand the issues that affect our world, and there is otherwise no class that focuses on teaching these skills.

Finally, the school newspaper itself is an important part of LHS life. The Musket's continued success will depend on a new crop of writers who know how to write news, sports, feature stories, and editorials. Without a Print Journalism class, these skills will only be taught by word of mouth from one student to another. A better method needs to be found.

-Will Eisner and Dan Michaelson

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The opinions expressed on these editorial pages are the views of either the *Musket* editorial board or of individual staff members. They are not necessarily a reflection of school policy, nor are they intended to mirror the ideas of every student. Therefore, *Musket* realizes its responsibility to print other opinions. Leave short, tasteful letters to the editor in the *Musket* mailbox in the LHS Student Activities Center. Only signed letters will ordinarily be printed. *Musket* reserves the right to edit for length.

Frisbee Players Outraged

In the past, we frisbee players have had no problem starting up a quiet game of catch on school property, but a disturbing trend is beginning at LHS. The administration is disallowing these informal gatherings. Like most LHS school policy, there is much uncertainty about what the rule actually is. The first confrontation between the administration and frisbee players occurred in mid-April. I was playing a quiet game of catch with senior Ronen Michaeli during a free block in the grassy area between DEF and ABC buildings when Mr. Robinson approached us. He politely informed us that "ball playing" is not allowed in this area but that if we were to move to the senior quad we would not be disturbed. We ceased our game for the time being.

We frisbee players would grudgingly accept a policy to allow playing in the senior quad only. Unfortunately, it is not that simple. Our rights are being violated. The next day, a game which I did not attend occurred in the senior quad and was interrupted by Mr. Capezza. He informed those participating that frisbee playing is not allowed on the senior quad. The game ended. But not the fight.

Subsequently, it seemed that the policy was loosening. Occasionally games of frisbee were tolerated during lunches, with only a few cranky teachers stopping them. Unfortunately, another confrontation did occur. With our confidence high from the seemingly less restrictive enforcement, juniors Fred Simon, Adam Mendola, and I ventured back to the senior quad.

It was a gorgeous day and the frisbee was practically levitating off the ground, when out of J-caf marched Mr. Capezza. Unsure of what to do, we kept playing until he came right up to Mendola and demanded that the game be stopped. At this time he motioned to Simon and me to come over.

He told us that frisbee playing was not allowed in the senior quad. Mr. Capezza said that although we were quiet, soon more people would come and, as it got warmer, windows of the surrounding classrooms would be open, and we would be disturbing the educational process. There are two fatal flaws with this standard. First of all, Mr. Capezza agrees that there is no inherent problem with playing frisbee. The only problem he has is with the effects of frisbee, in this case noise.

But certainly more things cause noise in the quad than just frisbee. People frolick in the quad as they eat lunch. If we are going to ban all things that cause noise, no more students should be allowed to eat lunch on the quad. The second problem is that we weren't doing anything wrong. Mr. Capezza agreed with us that we were being quiet but argued that, in the future, kids may come and be loud.

This argument goes against the very standards of the American judicial system: we are innocent until proven guilty. One does not punish someone for the precedent he is setting, but rather for the wrong he is committing. If a suspicious-looking person is walking down the street, he is not told to leave because the police don't want funny-looking people walking in Lexington Center. Rather, the police must wait until the person has done something illegal to arrest him. Since Mr. Capezza agreed that we hadn't done anything wrong, why did we have to stop? As junior Kevin Driscoll said to me, "There are no accurate answers, because we are right."

The compromise Mr. Capezza proposed was that we would be allowed to play in that little ten-by-ten-yard dirt island across the street from the senior quad. Although I respect this bargaining plea, it is hardly fair. First, the area is not nearly large enough for even the smallest game of catch. Second, since it is right next to Waltham Street, more often than not the frisbee will end up getting run over. In a more extreme opinion, Fred Simon likened the compromise at the time to "herding Native Americans onto a reservation."

We frisbee players would grudgingly accept a policy to allow playing in the senior quad only. Unfortunately, it is not that simple. Our rights as students are being violated.

After this final and decisive violation of our rights, outrage reigned in the senior quad. Immediately, a sit-down strike was organized. Students of all backgrounds, creeds, and sexes were united in the cause. There was no lack of comments from those in attendance. Michaeli sarcastically grunted, "Those silly administrators. In Israel they hand out frisbees at the school, and a few years back they made a new policy that requires competence in frisbee to graduate." Mendola was worried about the loss of identity in today's frisbee player. "The legitimate sport of frisbee is shunned in our society; it's neglected in gym class and banned on the senior quad." Junior Mike Sundue, who regrettably was not around to participate in the strike, commented afterwards that "in the past these strikes have been ignored, but this time you can feel the emotion for a huge fight against the man."

I urge the administration to adopt a strong policy: one that ensures a reasonable place for quiet, controlled frisbee games to occur; one that punishes anyone who gets out of hand and disturbs a class, for we obviously want that prevented. But I beg the administration not to revoke our right to enjoy ourselves between classes or during lunch. We are not causing harm and we should left alone. The fact that we play frisbee doesn't make us less than other students. As Junior Jake Horowitz rhetorically questioned during the sit-down strike, "Once the administration has taken away our right to enjoy ourselves peacefully, what do we have left?"

-Marc Jacobson

Ecology Cannot Be Ignored

Human ecology, the study of human interaction with the environment, should be included in the biology curriculum. Both academic and social responsibility demand that this issue be dealt with as part of any introductory biology class.

As it now stands, students are taught rudimentary population ecology, which includes population dynamics, descriptions of food webs, and ecosystem description. While human ecology is mentioned, it is not explained substantively. What explanation there is usually amounts to a sentence of two stating that human population is increasing and that the increase is causing resource depletion. At best, there is scattered attention given to humanity's impact on the environment.

To truly describe ecosystem functioning and population ecology, human interaction with these systems must be explained in biology class. A chart showing a man at the top of a food pyramid does not adequately demonstrate the human role in ecology. Humans exist in a web of relations with ecosystems, making them part of ecosystems. Humans take from ecosystems in various ways: agriculture, hunting, and resource extraction, for example. Humans add to ecosystems in the form of industrial detritus: garbage, various types of waste, and dead bodies. Other types of human activity, such as recreation and commercial development, modify "natural" ecosystems in other ways. At least some of these mechanisms should be examined in biology classes to provide a truer understanding of ecosystems.

The school, and the biology department in particular, also has a social responsibility to teach human ecology. One teaches population ecology, or biology in general, because what is taught is valuable. Biology is not taught for the sake of pure knowledge. Even if it is, this lack of values does not deny that a value be placed on "nature." In fact, there is worth in all living beings.

Even if one can find no beauty or value in ecosystems, there is reason for our own sake to teach about human interaction with the environment. Our society is rapidly destroying the world, and in the process devastating civilization's chances of survival.

Learning about our existence within ecosystems then acquires importance exceeding purely pedagogical goals. First, learning about human action and destruction in ecosystems is consciousness-raising. Giving students a scientific grounding for understanding human ecology cannot help but empower them because they will have a better understanding of what an eco-crisis is. There is some chance that this acquired knowledge may spur students on to action, be it screwing in fluorescent light bulbs or joining LEAF. Although in most cases it probably wont, given the apathy of most students, they may at least be more accepting of reformist solutions advocated by the government.

Human ecology may also change students' thought patterns. When people learn to think of humans as embedded in ecosystems, instead of above and apart from ecosystems, they will conceive of themselves and the "environment" differently. They will view themselves and their world holistically. This new perspective will itself push students toward accepting "environmental" solutions.

There are members of certain parts of the political spectrum who will object that human ecology is leftist brainwashing. It may be. However, this argument against human ecology is akin to the argument creationists make that evolution should not be taught. When biology is taught, knowledge is taught that is in accordance with a scientific discourse; the knowledge must be scientifically acceptable knowledge.

Since human ecology is acceptable within a biology discourse, it is acceptable material. If one rejects human ecology because one does not like its political implications, then by the same token one can reject evolutionary theory because of its religious implications.

—Luca Struble

Dan & Dan

Back Despite Popular Demand

Hey, kids! Dan & Dan's LHS career is finally winding down. Seniors have resigned themselves to enjoying the springtime sunshine while underclasspersons feign commitment to their studies. While sophomores fret over their first APs/achievements, juniors go blind on flashcards of obscure vocabulary like knacker (we provide the definition below for those of you who shot for less than 300).

No matter how much work you do, however, everyone needs a little free time. Thus, it's important to use your precious free-blocks wisely and productively. We'd like to offer a few of our favorite suggestions.

Bocci ball, sleep, harass building administrators, create a sculpture, eat Minuteman Fries, regurgitate same, perform low-impact aerobics, admire flag-pole, sign self out of next class

For the active type, hours upon hours of class can atrophy muscles and deprive the brain of much-needed nutrients, resulting in a stultified in-class personality that leads teachers and peers alike to mistake you for eggplant. (Note: student leaders/sweathogs like Mike Carey are already fulfilling their daily regimen of physical exertion and should turn to other, more cerebral activities during what free-blocks they have left.)

Red Rover, "follow the leader," start a rumble in C-house, climb the flagpole, dig a ditch, slip 'n' slide in the main hall, Lance binge, help Tony C. break class-cutting legs

Many physicians, especially those without degrees ("homeophysicians"), recommend meditative-type activities as a good way to alleviate the body of the physical stresses that build up throughout the course of a day, especially in Mr. Mechem's classes. We have found such activities to be relaxing and a good way to avoid having to talk to a given annoying person (A.P.) who may be hanging around nearby. Dan & Dan warn you not to entrance too deeply, especially in the senior quad, or you may be assaulted by any nearby Life Skills teacher, who can and will perform a variety of mouth-to-mouth and CPR techniques, all unpleasant.

Sun bathing, yoga contortion, zen contemplation, tao meditation, tai chi, bird watching, admire LHS shrubbery, watch Montel on school monitors, create and tend Japanese rock garden, play with Play-Doh, sit in on quiet study hall with Al Teng and Raffi Fattal

For the rebellious among us — you know who you are, or at least Tony does — who feel overly constrained by legal free-block activities, a variety of high crimes and misdemeanors can be performed during a 45-minute period.

Harass underclasspersons, drag race the Alliance security guard through the student parking lot, vandalize a Lance machine, question the authority of the "undercover" cop, get thrown out of F-House, make fire alarm noises, slash tires in faculty parking lot (go for Doc Five's two-wheeler), spit

For those with more social conscience, Dan & Dan offer the following extremely worthwhile free time protests/statements/activities. Worthwhile at least from the point of view of rational human beings, as opposed to reactionary republican blowhards. We don't want to mention any names, but his initials are Craig Della Penna, class of '93.5.

Stage a sit-in in F-house, sit in on someone else's class, talk politics with Mr. Rodriguez, or Mr. Damiani, plant a tree, cut one down, campaign for class council (our new favorite slogan: "Vote for Shira, she'll really hear ya"), *spread Phil Geiger rumors around Dr. Fiveash, collect free condoms, set fire to flagpole, set fire to condoms, sow and reap grains on campus to feed third world peoples, streak*

For those of you who can't find anything that appeals to you on the above lists and have already spent part of your free-block finding out what's on next block's Mechem quiz, we recommend the classic standby. Take a few minutes and calculate the number of hours, minutes, seconds, msecs, left before graduation.

"Surgeon General's Warning:" Freshmen, in your case the advanced mathematics required for the above calculation may be hazardous to your health. Your time is better spent, say, clipping your toenails.

P.S. We think Will Eisner really is a bastion of professional journalism.

knacker: a buyer of worn-out domestic animals.

Dan & Dan would like to apologize on behalf of the rest of the editorial staff for the op-ed page this issue. In previous editions, the Musket has tried to treat one or more serious issues at length, such as censorship or racism. This month, we present, for your information, frisbee. And something about the eco-sphere. Remember, your grandchildren's future is at stake.

Some of the members of the Mustard Seeds, a bible study group recently chartered at LHS. The group is the only religious-based student-run organization at the school.

Photo by Gill Grant

LHS Students Organize Religious Study Group

by Ornella Rullo and Jennifer Suh

LHS has a International Student's club and a Chinese club. LHS also has a French club and a Spanish club. It even has a mythology club. Amidst all these student-run organizations, however, there has always been a noticeable lack of a student-run religious club. No longer. Quietly but determinedly, the Mustard Seeds, a Christian fellowship group, have become LHS' newest club, and after a long silence, they are ready to be heard.

The club is led by seniors Hong Kwon, Dan Yee, and Ben Champney. Science teacher Mark Rodriguez is the faculty advisor. According to group's charter, "[Mustard Seeds] is a non-denominational Christian group, not sponsored by any church...[The group] strives to find spiritual truth through the Christian faith and strives to apply these truths to students' daily lives."

"School can sometimes seem indifferent to Christians...It is easy to feel alone and discouraged as a high school student. Encouragement and support of one another are big parts of Mustard Seeds."

—Senior Ben Champney

The group has been in existence for quite a while, meeting weekly in various places. It is only recently, however, that the group has become a formerly chartered LHS group. Being officially-chartered gives the Mustard Seeds the chance to take part in some activities they had been prohibited from taking parting in previously, such as posting signs at school or making announcements on the loudspeaker.

Dan Yee comments, "A couple of controversial issues for us in recent times have been censorship and freedom of speech. These problems have faced the Mustard Seeds and other similar groups in the past. I don't feel that this group should be thought of or treated any differently just because we deal with topics of a spiritual nature."

Hong Kwon agrees. He adds, "There is a fine line between separation of church and state and intolerance for religion. We want to help people realize that all religions are given the freedom to exercise their religious right as long as they do infringe upon others' rights. We want Christians in the school to know that they don't have to feel like they're in a vacuum, that it's all right to talk about the Bible with your friends around school."

The Mustard Seeds seek to provide an outlet for religious LHS students. Ben Champney says, "School can sometimes seem indifferent and even hostile to Christianity and religion in general. It is easy to feel alone and discouraged as a high school student." He adds, "Encouragement and support of one another are big parts of Mustard Seeds."

The Mustard Seeds hope that becoming chartered will increase their visibility in the school community and thereby make it easier for Christian students to become aware. Champney explains, "We don't want anybody to feel alone or without support while trying to live according to the Christian faith. Mustard Seeds hope to provide a welcoming environment for Christians of all backgrounds."

The Mustard Seeds was formed in 1989 by LHS alumnus Yung K. Kim. Originally, the group was named "The Kingdom Seekers," but that name was dropped in favor of the current name, a reference to Matthew 17:20, in which it is written, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move."

The Mustard Seeds are sending an open invitation to all Christian students at LHS interested in worshipping with their peers. Dan Yee says, "If you're looking for personal encouragement for your Christian faith, or if you're interested, curious, bored, or just plain nosy, I invite you to come and find out what we're all about."

LHS Contributes to State Drama Festival

by Elizabeth Murray

On the afternoon of January fifth, twenty Lexington High School drama students sat down to create a script for the LHS submission to the Massachusetts Globefest. Drama teacher Steven Bogart felt very strongly that the group should put together an original play. Senior Stacey Zielke commented, "I thought it was cool to write our own play and to see our ideas come alive on stage."

Bogart suggested a scenario in which a maniacal television producer would put a real family on T.V. and exploit them in some way in order to further his/her own success. With this springboard for diving into a plot, the twenty students began to create scenes and ideas through improvisation. After the group had spent hours describing various themes and ideas for the play, they were divided into subgroups. In these groups they would try their bring ideas to life by playing them out as characters. Finally, the cast re-gathered to share scenes with each other.

"It was cool to write our own play and to see our ideas come alive on stage."

—Senior Stacey Zielke

After lengthy and arduous discussion, the group decided what worked and what did not. Keeping what the majority agreed on as valid story material, they continued to find more ways to develop the plot. After weeks of improvising, creating, and scripting the material, the group came up with their play Lot 4B.

The piece is a farcical look inside life at a television studio. In Lot 4B, Joyce, a television producer played by senior Sylvia Sellers, becomes corrupted by Success, portrayed by junior Amanda Palmer, when she is threatened by powerful board members and the Big Cheese of the studio. The board informs Joyce that without a multi-sponsored, smash hit TV show, she will be fired.

Success then plants the idea in Joyce's head of taking a real family and putting them on TV. With the help of a a set crew, a fanatic director and a team of writers, Joyce succeeds in her goal. She creates a show that results with "ratings through the roof," and disastrous consequences.

Unlike any other production at the high school, the Globefest cast was provided with the chance to be the writers, producers and actors of their piece. The play was not cast until the entire script was finished. By doing this the cast members had the chance to "try on" all the characters.

The play garnered many awards at the preliminary level. These awards included All-Star Cast Awards to seniors Sylvia Sellers, Aaron Jette, Christian Consilvio, and junior Elizabeth Murray. The cast and crew were proud of their honors from prelim round.

The performance at Bromfield, the site of the semi-finals, went well and LHS won a number of Semi-Final All-Star Awards. Sylvia was again honored for her role as producer, as Amanda was for her part of Success. Stacey received an award for executing multiple roles and ensemble awards were presented to all the family members.

Despite all these honors, the cast was still tentative about their chance at winning the competition. Only three schools are selected from each of the five semi-final sites and the cast was nervous as to how their play would compare to others in the judges' minds.

The entire cast was overjoyed to learn that Lexington was one out of the fifteen schools across the state chosen to go on to the final round at the John Hancock Performing Arts Center in Boston on March 25, 26, and 27th. Lexington was last to perform.

Sylvia and Amanda were named to the All-Star Cast.

Junior Dave Lin and freshman Mike Wallerstein accepted awards for outstanding ensemble effort. Joseph Case High School with The Grapes of Wrath and Danvers High School with Between Mouthfuls won the final round. The Bromfield School's To Gillian on her 37th Birthday was chosen as an alternate.

The players and creators of Lot 4B were thrilled to have been part of the Festival.

Junior Alison Green finishes with: "We were really proud of the show. Mr Bogart gave us the idea and theme, but after that we wrote our own show, with a great, close-knit cast."

Underclassmen senators think furiously in order to keep up at a recent meeting of the Lexington High School Student/Faculty Senate.

Photo by Gill Grant

Friend Remembers Matt

The following is an essay dedicated to the memory of Matthew Santosuosso.

by Brian Spellman

For those of us who knew Matt Santosuosso, the only thing we have left is our memories. We have to remember the good times we had with him and just be glad we had the chance to know him.

There are many memorable stories about Matt, but they are only meaningful to those who were involved in them. If you knew Matt the way his good friends did, you would know that he was a joker. He would do anything to get a laugh out of his classmates and friends. Matt would wear his bowling shoes to school, he would wear his purple dinosaur hat, and he would even wear his pajamas.

Matt liked to be the center of attention and he usually was. It was very easy to get mad at him for some of his personal jokes, but it was even easier to forgive him. It was difficult to stay mad at Matt for a long period of time; he would flash his big smile and come up with some hare-brained apology.

Behind Matt's loud exterior was a thoughtful, caring individual. He was always there in times of need. Matt would do anything to help out a friend.

Matt was one-of-a-kind and he will never be forgotten. Every time I see a butterfly or feel a nice warm breeze I know he's there. Try not to feel sad. Just think of the good times you had with him and always carry his memory in your heart.

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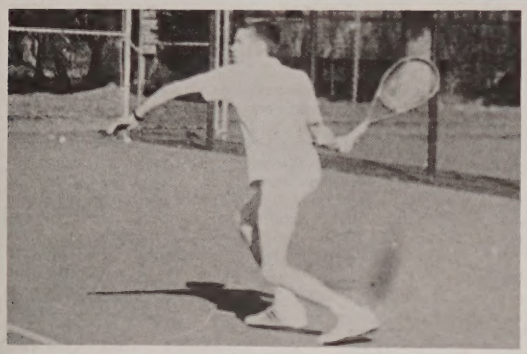

Senior Steve Cole gets ready to return a serve from a strong opponent.

Photo by Brad DeCecio

Boys' Tennis Strong

by Andreas Hipple

With the loss of four of the seven 1992 varsity regulars to graduation, the 1993 LHS boys' tennis team appears to be one in transition. Nonetheless, the members are determined to do some damage in a tough Middlesex League. This year's team is young, yet deep. The varsity positions will be closely contested all year, as a talented crop of freshmen have arrived to vie with the returning varsity and JV veterans for a chance to put on the fabled golden shirts.

On Wednesday, April 14, following the postponement of the scheduled season opener at Belmont, the boys' tennis team finally took to the courts against an improving yet hapless group of Woburn Tanners. As expected, the Minutemen cruised to a 5-0 victory, with none of the matches ever in doubt. Senior Josh Plumb, junior Parker Coffman, and senior Steve Cole, all returning varsity regulars, outplayed their opponents in the first, second, and third singles spots respectively. The first doubles team, sophomores Carlos Reyes and Armen Zohrabian, and the second doubles team, junior Andreas Hipple and sophomore Andrew Zimmer, both took care of business with straight set wins.

Friday, April 16, brought the first van ride of the year. The Minutemen's opponent was Wakefield and the team hoped to get in and out with a 5-0 win so that its members could finally get started with vacation.
With number one singles player Josh Plumb already lying on the beach in the Caribbean, Lexington had an opportunity to exhibit its depth and give a pair of freshmen some valuable varsity experience. Carlos Reyes, following in the footsteps of Justin Sweder as Lexington's successful "little man" of tennis, stepped up to the first singles position and proceeded to pound his Wakefield opponent with his relentless ground strokes en route to a 6-1, 6-3 win. At second singles, Steve Cole did his part with a convincing 6-3, 6-1 straight set win. Coffman took care of the third singles chores and had his way with his opponent winning with a crushing 6-1, 6-0 score.

The doubles teams had as little trouble with their opponents as did their single's teammates. The number one doubles team of Hipple and Zimmer, the "Twin Towers" of LHS boys' tennis, breezed to a 6-1, 6-3 win. The team held its serves throughout both sets. At second doubles, freshmen Nick Bartlett and Bryant Lee made their varsity debut a memorable on, racking up a "double bagel" (6-0, 6-0) with their first match with the coveted gold shirts.

After a week off from both school and organized team practice, the team reassembled for a home match against perennial powerhouse Winchester on Tuesday, April 27. With Plumb, Reyes and Lee playing singles, and doubles teams of Cole-Coffman and Hipple-Zimmer, the team collectively struggled to a 4-1 defeat at the hands of the undefeated Winchester Sachems, who by the way, are led by defending state singles champion Matt Fuller. The sole win came from Carlos Reyes, who battled back to an exhausting win in a third set tie-breaker after dropping the first set. The squad will be glad to have another shot at Winchester when they travel to the Winchester clay courts in May.

The day after the make-up Winchester match, the boys' tennis team had a perfunctory 5-0 win over perennially helpless Watertown. The same group who played Winchester lost a total of six games in the five matches played.

Senior Kelly Herrington prepares for an upcoming game against Winchester held in Lexington.

Photo by John Lin

Tough Times

Girls' Track Slow Start

by Susan Gorman

As with many teams this spring, due to the large amount of snow, the first scheduled meet was postponed. Now, instead of a league meet being their last meet, for their last competition of the season, they will run in a dual meet against Belmont. For their first meet of the season, the team will compete against Woburn on April 20.

For the field events, the team is not very plentiful, with the same people competing in most events. In the javelin, senior Rachel Quinn and freshman Flavia Gnecco will compete. Senior Carrie Granger, junior Hannah Neumeier, and Gnecco will participate in the discus throw. Neumeier said about the discus event," I think we'll do pretty well. I'm the only one who has thrown before, but Carrie and Flavia throw really well." Granger, a Middlesex League All-Star in this event during the indoor track season, and Gnecco will also compete in the shotput.

For the track events, the team has produced many more participants, although they are plagued by injuries. The distance runners, who do one to two miles, are seniors Dennison, Hill, and Quinn, junior Hannah Neumeier and sophomores Westfall, Becky McCarthy, and Robin King. The girls who will run the hurdles are Rachel Quinn, Anne Sukeforth, freshmen Ellen VanWert, Monica Martinez and Genn Bartels. Some of the sprinters are Lora Marzilli, and sophomore Julie Howell. As Quinn said," They're basically led by Lora."

After their first three meets, the Minutemaids have gone 0-3. However, they seem to be running surprisingly strong. The girls have had meets with Winchester, Wakefield, and Woburn, losing to Wakefield 93-43, but barely being beaten by Winchester 72-66.

For the track events, in the 300 hurdles, senior Rachel Quinn has been very strong, consistently garnering first and second places. Thus far, her strongest race has been with a time of 53.6 seconds. The 100 hurdels had Lexington runners finishing in third place against both Wakefield and Winchester. In the one mile race, senior Becky Dennison, as always, leads the pack. She finished first place against both Wakefield and Woburn, with her best time being an impressive 5:22.8. For the two mile race against Winchester, junior Cara Attanucci finished in second place with a time of 12:48.7 and freshman Becky McCarthy ran a third with 13:56. In the 100 dash, Julie Howell finished in third, 14.7 seconds, against Wakefield and Lora Marzilli got second against Winchester in 13.4 seconds. For the 200 dash, Lexington won two places with strong showings by sophomore Catherine Westfall and Becky Dennison. In the 400 dashes, Dennison placed first, while another Lexington runner grabbed third. The 800 dashes were good events for Lexington as senior Chloe Hill took first against Wakefield and Winchester, and junior Janet Lowther took third against Winchester.

Senior Chloe Hill and junior Cara Attanucci practice their distance run around cemter field.

Photo by John Lin

Softball Starts Stable

by Michelle Conceison

Fine conditions for a game. The sun is shining. It's a bit windy and the red dust shoots into the umpire's eyes once in a while. The calls get better. Everyone is charged for their next at-bat. Family and friends are gathered around to watch. It is a perfect day all in all. To top it all off, the top of the first flies by. Senior Kelly Harrington singlehandedly sends the first batter back to the visitor's bench. The next two outs are made with help from seniors Karen Tracey and Keri St. George and sophomore Darlene Meehan. Come see a game for yourself. Visitors are welcome. The team won't let you down. It is still too early to predict what is to come this season, but no doubt the season will be a different one.

Funny, I just finished telling someone that it's amazing how much the character of a team can differ from year to year. This year, the softball team seems to possess a lot of style and sparkle where as last year's team took a quieter route. Still, for those of you who remember the "banana-peeling" days, the team holds its own new spirit. A bit mellower than the "wild" years, the team still plans to get the job done with a more deliberate air. The departure of graduated players has introduced a new kind of ball club. St. George expressed an original concern for the inexperience on the team. Reflecting on the fact that there are only five seniors, St. George said," I think everyday our team grows stronger." Returning varsity sophomore Christine Oberto agreed with St. George and went on to say," We have a lot of young players, but starting or not, all get into the game and have fun."

Losing the first game of the season to Woburn was a terrible blow the the LHS girls' softball team. Mrs. Lasa had warned the team about the fact that it hadn't been outside on a field until opening day. The players were told that of all years, this was the year that they didn't need the time indoors. The team hoped they'd be okay but, to be honest, the switch from indoors to the red clay was not an easy one from many members of the team. Senior right fielder Sam "Neb" Nebolsine baffled the writer with her comment regarding the weather saying," We got out late and that was a detriment ... but, now we've gotten into the swing of things. Grrr, write that one down, G-R-R-R-R. I'm sitting on my roof catching rays and my mailman is like right there and he doesn't see me." [sic] Go figure. It's hard to get Neb to speak for very long without her getting into the subject of sunbathing. Anyway, the team was angered by its loss to Woburn and is now on a rampage, shooting down Wakefield with a score of 16-2, slaughtering Winchester 17-1, and shutting out Watertown 15-0. The team hopes to continue its rampaging until the last standing team falls, which may very well be Reading. When asked about the anticipated bout with Reading, St. George heatedly said," Reading will be a challenge, but it's one that we can meet with hard work and concentration. I definitely think that we can extinguish them."

Oberto seemed to have summed it up when she stated," I don't know what makes a great ball club. We need more than just the Lexington reputation of being a good team. We need confidence. We need experience. Most of all, I think we need some more Blow Pops!"

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Freshman Chih-Chen Wen is in the act of throwing his javelin while a comptetive Stoneham opponent looks on.

Photo by Brad DeCaco

Hard Times Ahead for Young Boy Tracksters

by Josh McCarthy

Coming off an undefeated indo00or season, the boys' track and field team would appear to be in good shape for the upcoming season. Unfortunately, this is not case. Combating both injury and desertion by key team members to other spring sports, namely lacrosse, the Minutemen likely will battle merely to break even this spring in the unpredictable Middlesex League. This year's team, similar to last year's, is loaded with inexperience. With only eight seniors, and five of them members of the hardy distance crew, Lexington will rely heavily on several; freshmen and sophomores, especially in the throwing events, to provide the points needed for victories.

However, there are a few areas where Lexington athletes will compete with the best in the league. In the pole vault, junior Graham Taylor and sophomore Nathan Jauvtis aim to be the deadliest one-two combination in the league. The distance crew, as always, will hopefully not forfeit many firsts and seconds during the year. Seniors Josh McCarthy, Jason "Stinky" Handwerker, and Mike Hsieh, along with juniors Lowell Ladd, Fred Simon, and Gregoire Landel form the nucleus, while senior Jeremy Warren, junior Chris Donahue, sophomore Eugene Valsky, and freshmen Karsten Schoellner and Phil Oliff all will contribute heavily. Senior Eric Losick, presently injured, will undoubtedly be integral later in the season against the tougher league opponents.

Junior Johann Jack will reign supreme in any sprinting event he chooses to enter in any Middlesex League duel meet, and possibly any state contest as well. Seniors Das Dreher and Courtney Swanson will complement Jack nicely, along with juniors Joe Matthews and Allister Charles, the latter two who are newcomers this year.

The two hurdling events, the 110 yard high hurdles and the 330 yard intermediate hurdles, will feature junior Brent Newcomb and freshman Jon Shank. Senior Dan Marx, although currently fighting a four-month hip injury, will no doubt bolster this inexperienced squad as the year progresses.

The sprinters will most likely be responsible for the majority of the jumping events. Jack can compete in either the long or high jump, while Dreher, Matthews, Charles, and Swanson will both long jump. Matthews may possibly high jump, while Ladd, McCarthy, and Simon will venture into the realm of the triple jump.

Lexington's major weakness, as in recent years, will be the throwing events. In two of the three events, the athletes will almost be entirely freshman. Freshmen Mike Massey and Dave Lee will lead the team in the shot put and discus, along with Chi-Chen Wen and Casey Edwards. Taylor, Jauvtis, Marx, and possibly Handwerker and Hsieh will lead the javelin corps.

Unlike their indoor counterparts, the outdoor team understands that it is not overflowing with talent. The athletes will have to work hard and regularly to even compete with untouchable Reading and powers Woburn and Stoneham. If the team can equal or exceed last year's mark of 5-4, the season will be considered successful.

Senior Dan Marx prepares for his next hurdle race as he practices at center field.

Photo by John Lin

Tennis Girls Seek Top Spot

by Elizabeth Crane

Traditionally finishing with a very successful record, this year's girls' varsity tennis team is hopeful this year will prove no exception. For each of the past three seasons, the team has finished either first or second in the Middlesex League.

With only nine people returning from last year, the team has rebuilt itself with many new players. After only a few days of practice, just enough time to get a "ladder" organized, the first match was upon the newly formed team. As junior Liz Dubin put it, "we were really thrown into the season."

The season opener was played against Woburn, a match that Lexington easily won. Senior co-captain Jessica Van Nostrand, playing first singles, and Dubin, playing second singles, both dominated their matches with set scores of 6-1, 6-1 and 6-4, 7-5 respectively. Junior Jodi Nierman lost a close match at third singles, with a score of 5-7, 3-6. Junior Katie Fleiss and Senior co-captain Elizabeth Crane, at first doubles, and Senior Susan St. Pierre and Sophomore Lily Talakoub, at second doubles, won their matches with scores 6-1, 6-2 and 7-5, 7-6 (9-7) respectively.

However, the team's next match, against Wakefield, proved to be much more of a challenge. The ladder for this match changed slightly, with Chung playing in the third singles spot and Nierman joining Talakoub for the second doubles position. In the end, all five varsity matches were lost.

Regarding the loss, Dubin commented, "It was a really frustrating match... they were a really good team, but we might have won with more practice. It was a good match to show us what we need to improve on... it will get us working."

Next, the team went on to play Winchester, one of the strongest teams in the Middlesex League. All five varsity tams lost challenging, yet close, matches. Van Nostrand, playing first singles, finished with a score of 4-6, 3-6. Second singles player Dubin and third singles player Chung completed their matches with respective scores of 2-6, 1-6, and 1-6, 1-6. At first doubles, Fleiss and Crane lost with score of 4-6, 2-6, and Talakoub and Nierman, playing second doubles, finished at 3-6, 4-6.

The next day, however, the team faced Watertown at home. This time, varsity won with a final score of 4-1, and JV won 4-0. Van Nostrand and Dubin both easily won their matches with scores of 6-2, 6-0 and 6-0, 6-3 respectively. Nierman, at third singles, lost a long, but close match 6-4, 2-6, 6-3. Both doubles teams won as well, with Fleiss and Crane finishing with scores of 6-1, 6-0 and Talakoub and Chung completing their match 6-1, 2-6, 6-3.

Senior Becky Dennison races against a Winchester opponent in a recent meet.

Photo by Jason Chang

Boys' Lacrosse Hopeful

by Albert Teng

The 1993 spring season has been fiendish to the Lexington boys' lacrosse team. So far, Mother Nature has constantly pounded the LAX fields with snow and rain. It has been virtually impossible for any spring team to practice on the swamps of Lincoln Field. But it is obvious that the Lexington lacrosse team has been hit the hardest.

> "This has been the hardest season I have ever had to coach.
>
> —*Coach David Lautman*

While the rest of the lacrosse teams in the state have played three or four games, the Minutemen have continued to relentlessly practice in the steamy gym or in the murky fieldhouse. Often, (too often in my opinion), the Minutemen were forced to run sprints for half of their practices because of the limited time granted to them in the gym or fieldhouse.

Coach Lautman declared: "This has been the hardest season I have ever had to coach. We have a good team, but with no fields and the rest of the league way ahead us, I don't know what else could go wrong."

Coach Lautman has this team ready to hit on all cylinders. Leading the way are tri-captains Corey Hendrickson, Jim Sheehy, and Al Teng. The 200+ pounder Corey Hendrickson leads a talented squad of defensemen. Senior defensemen David Cheek and Scott Cahaly contribute their skill and leadership to the team. Ryan Limerick and Kevin Driscoll provide depth and quickness for the defense. Seniors Jim Sheehy and Al Teng, along with Colby Crogan, form a potent line of midfielders. Juniors T.R. Ludwig, Sean Fitzpatrick, and Simon Edwards form a speedy midfield line. With juniors Rory O'Connor, Jani Groblewski, Jay Campisi, and John Milner, the Minutemen have depth in their midfielders. The attack consists of juniors Jesse Green, Alex Kurtz, Brian Lavalle, Mike Prensky, and Brian Smith. With the experience of Green and Kurtz, along with the stick handling skills of Lavalle, the attack is ready.

The one question that still bothers the coach is the goalie situation. Goalies Brian Greene and Jeremy Clough provide Lautman with a difficult task of deciding who to start in net for the first game.

Varsity Scoreboard

as of May 13, 1993

Team	W-L-T
Outdoor Track	
Boys'	1-5
Girls'	1-5
Lacrosse	
Boys'	6-4
Girls'	4-2
Tennis	
Boys'	9-1
Girls'	5-5
Baseball	8-5
Softball	11-2